

San Bernardino County



Larry Walker

Auditor-Controller/Recorder/Treasurer/Tax Collector

PRESS RELEASE For Immediate Distribution

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From: Larry Walker, Auditor-Controller/Recorder/Treasurer/Tax Collector

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY CLERK ISSUES STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO GENDER NEUTRAL MARRIAGE COURT RULING

San Bernardino, CA — San Bernardino County Clerk Larry Walker announced today that his policy regarding issuance of marriage licenses is unchanged. "We will continue to obey all applicable law as we provide the best possible service to our customers," Walker reiterated. With the recent decision by the Federal District Court, that applicable law may be changing, but the date of change is still uncertain. "The court ruled that Proposition 8 is unconstitutional," Walker observed. "The court also issued a stay of its order, pending other decisions in the case. My office will monitor the court's proceedings, and will respond as the court dictates."

At present, the court is considering whether to stay its order (keeping it from going into effect) while the case is appealed. If the stay is lifted, the order would be effective immediately. "My challenge as County Clerk is to wait for direction from the court, but to be ready to respond immediately as rulings come out," Walker explained. "Unlike previous state court rulings, it appears that this federal court order will go into effect immediately if the stay is lifted."

To accommodate all constituents that have questions or concerns, the County Clerk has posted on his website the Federal Court link <https://ecf.cand.uscourts.gov/cand/09cv2292/> that will provide up-to-date status reports on the court's decisions. Walker has also provided on his official website a copy of the ruling and stay order in full text for easy access. His staff will also be available on the phone to take names and phone numbers for use in the event that the ruling goes into effect, at which time, his office will call them back and schedule services for them.

All marriage services are conducted at the Hall of Records, located at 222 West Hospitality Lane, in San Bernardino. Licenses and ceremonies are available during normal business hours, Monday thru Friday from 9:00am to 4:00pm. Appointments are strongly encouraged and are given priority status. Walk in customers are accommodated, but are required to wait until appointment customers have been processed. It is also important that appointment customers arrive at least 15 minutes early to assure they are ready and to avoid the possibility of rescheduling to another day. For an appointment, customers can call (909) 387-8306 or (909) 387-8314.

For more information, please refer to the Auditor-Controller/Recorder/Treasurer/Tax Collector's website at www.sbcounty.gov/acr or to call (909) 387-8314.

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